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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q90681

Eiichi KITAZONO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/551,192

Group Art Unit: 1615

Confirmation No.: 3913

Examiner: Michael P. Woodward

Filed: September 29, 2005

For: COMPOSITE OF SUPPORT MATRIX AND COLLAGEN, AND METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF SUPPORT MATRIX AND COMPOSITE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003. Also, submitted herewith is one copy of the English language translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability for PCT/JP2004/004620 and the references listed therein.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

1. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the citing of corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,576,019 B1 for JP-A-2001-521789 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-2001-521789.

2. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for WO A1 98/22155 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of WO A1 98/22155.

3. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for WO A1 98/24385 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of WO A1 98/24385.

4. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A-5-337143 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-5-337143.

5. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A-2002-159502 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-2002-159502.

6. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A-62-186864 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-62-186864.

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7. The indication in the International Preliminary Search Report and the previously submitted International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of corresponding GB 1 577 221 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-52-110977.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

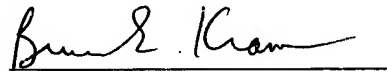
Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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<b>Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO</b>  <b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u></b> <b><u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>	
			Application Number	10/551,192
			Confirmation Number	3913
			Filing Date	September 29, 2005
			First Named Inventor	Eiichi KITAZONO
			Art Unit	1615
Examiner Name	Michael P. Woodward			
Attorney Docket Number	Q90681			
Sheet	1	of	1	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,576,019	B1	06-10-2003	Atala
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	2001-521789	A	11-13-2001	Children's Medical Center Corporation	Corresponding US Patent 6,576,019 cited above
		WO	98/22155	A1	05-28-1998	Tapic International Co., Ltd.	Abstract
		WO	98/24385	A1	06-11-1998	Tapic International Co., Ltd.	Abstract
		JP	5-337143	A	12-21-1993	Terumo Corp., Seiren Co. Ltd.	Abstract
		JP	2002-159502	A	06-04-2002	Kimura Sosuke, Getz Brothers:KK	Abstract
		JP	62-186864	A	08-15-1987	Kanebo Ltd.	Abstract
		JP	52-110977	A	09-17-1977	Imperial Chemical Industries Limited	Corresponding GB Patent 1 577 221 cited below
		GB	1 577 221		10-22-1980	Imperial Chemical Industries Limited	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.